

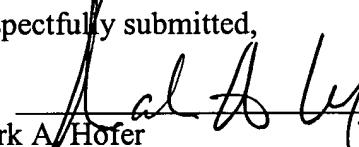


## REMARKS

No new matter has been added as a result of the above-presented amendments. The specification was amended to convert the originally filed foreign application into a format that is acceptable under 37 CFR 1.125 (b). The amendment is also responsive to the "Notice to File Corrected Application" mailed on February 15, 2001. The specification has been amended to correct the application by removing excessive text from the drawings. This preliminary amendment has been filed within the time period as set forth and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.115 (b)(2)(iii).

The Applicants respectfully request expeditious consideration and allowance of the present application. The Examiner is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned if he believes such would facilitate furtherance of the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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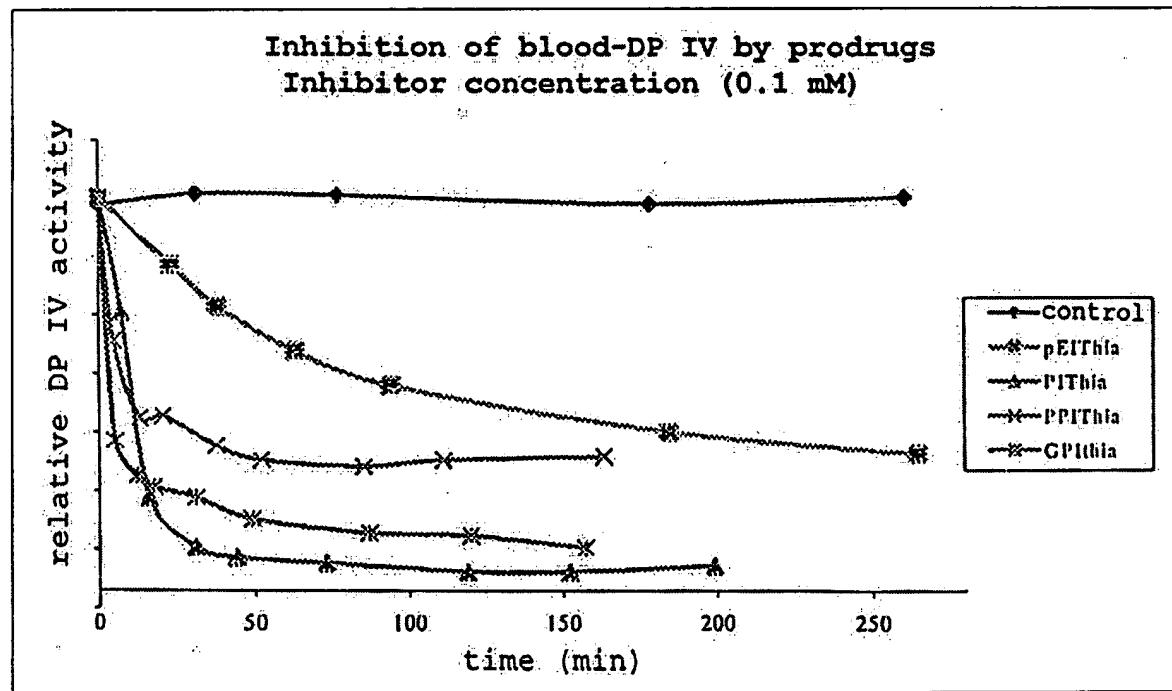
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Dated March 21, 2001

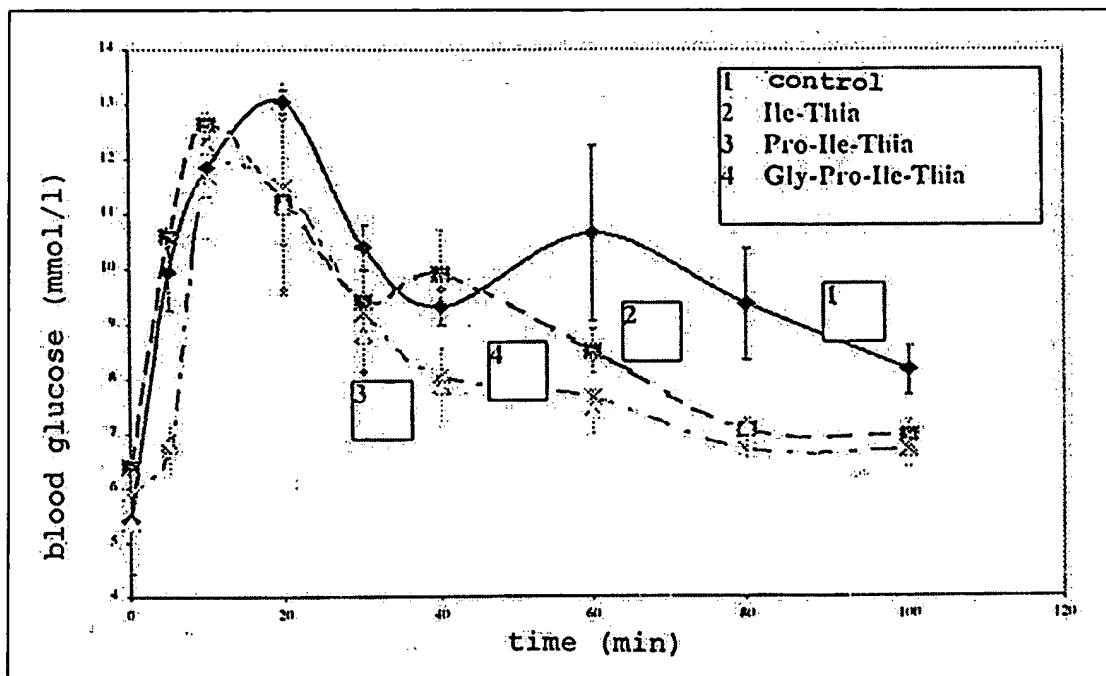
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Figure 1: ~~Inhibition of DP IV in human whole blood by release of the DP IV inhibitor Ile-Thia from prodrugs according to the invention~~



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Figure 2: Glucose levels in serum after oral glucose stimulation and p.o. prodrug administration to the Wistar rat



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